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(*c*) what are the demands of the workers; and

(*d*) what action the Government have taken on the representation?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The factory was closed from 9th September 1954.

" (*c*) The demands of the workers are—

(1) Re-opening the factory and reinstatement of all workers.

(2) Enforcement of the Factories Act in the factory.

(3) Payment of lay-off wages to the workers for the period of closure.

(4) To save the female workers from the difficulties.

" (*d*) As the management and the workers' Union did not meet the Labour Officer, Kozhikode, in spite of several appointments fixed by him, no action was considered necessary on the representation."

Fishing boats.

* 1898 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have purchased any fishing boats from other countries to carry out experimental fishing;

(*b*) if so, how many and their cost; and

(*c*) whether any persons were requested by the Government to stay in the State to help and instruct the local fishermen on the use of modern fishing tackle?

3-10 p.m. THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The Government have not purchased fishing boats from foreign countries for conducting experimental fishing. The Food and Agricultural Organization have supplied two Danish boats. These boats which are the property of the Food and Agricultural Organization are being used by Mr. G. Illugason, Food and Agricultural Organization Fisheries Engineer, for demonstrational fishing.

" (*b*) Does not arise.

" (*c*) The Government have obtained the services of Mr. G. Illugason, Fisheries Engineer from the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, for giving training to the fishermen and to the staff of the Fisheries department in improved methods of fishing."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, may I know where the fishing boats are working and whether they are working at Tellicherry? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" About exactly where they are working, I would like to have notice."

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SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know whether the Government are going to introduce the trawler system of fishing boats to help the fishermen and enable them to earn money? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir, Government have been considering that."

SRI S. T. ADITYAN :—" Sir, will the Government publish a statement as to what this trawler system has so far done and what is the result? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" If the hon. Member will put a separate question, I shall answer it by placing a note on the table of the House."

Deep-sea fishing.

* 1898-B *Q.*—SRI C. KANDASAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the expenditure incurred in securing the services of one Mr. Paul Ziener for suggesting improvements in deep-sea fishing;

(*b*) the suggestions so far made by him; and

(*c*) whether the Government will be pleased to place a copy of this report on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The Government have incurred an expenditure of Rs. 5,382–8–0 towards payment of local living costs to Mr. P. Ziener, Food and Agricultural Organization, Naval Architect, who was on assignment in this State during the calendar year 1954.

" (*b*) (i) The expert designed and built a proto-type deep-sea fishing boat for use on the East and West Coasts of this State.

(ii) He also designed and built a motorised surf boat or beach landing craft which could replace the conventional catamaran.

(iii) He has recommended that the Tuticorin type of fishing canoes may be mechanised.

" (*c*) Apart from making studies and recommendations, the expert has not submitted any reports."

Labour dispute in Moidu Rubber Estate, Walluvanad.

* 1898-I *Q.*—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was any labour dispute in the Moidu Rubber Estate in Walluvanad, Malabar, in January 1955;

(*b*) the causes of the dispute; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken to settle the same?